

US-PAT-NO: 6067561

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6067561 A

TITLE: Electronic mail notification system
and method within a hybrid network that transmits
notifications via a continuous, high-speed channel

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Brief Summary Text - BSTX (25):

The subscriber terminal preferably includes a time-stamp memory for storing a latest time-stamp which the subscriber terminal most recently received from the front-end for the e-mail alert service subscriber. Such a subscriber terminal may also include comparing means for comparing a time-stamp received from the front-end with the latest time-stamp stored in the time-stamp memory and for providing to the e-mail alert service subscriber an indication that e-mail for the e-mail alert service subscriber has been received by the e-mail server if the received time-stamp differs from the latest time-stamp.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (15):

As illustrated by FIG. 2, the subscriber terminal 18 determines, based on each e-mail notification it receives from the front-end computer 28, whether e-mail for a subscriber has been received by the e-mail server 12. To do so, the subscriber terminal 18 includes a time-stamp memory 40 for storing a "latest" time-stamp which the subscriber terminal 18 most recently received in an e-mail notification from the front-end computer 28 for

the e-mail alert service subscriber. The comparison of the time-stamp received from the e-mail server 12 with the most recently received or "latest" time-stamp stored in the time-stamp memory 40 of the subscriber terminal 18 is then made by the processor 34 or other suitable comparing means provided at the subscriber terminal 18.

Claims Text - CLTX (26):

24. The electronic mail front-end of claim 23, wherein the subscriber terminal includes comparing means for comparing a time-stamp received from the front-end with the latest time-stamp stored in the time-stamp memory and for providing to the service subscriber an indication that electronic mail for the service subscriber has been received by the server if the time-stamp differs from the latest time-stamp.